GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3991
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2001
COMPENSATION TO FARMERS
DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any compensation is being paid/proposed to be paid to the farmers of victims in case of destroy their farms, located near wildlife sanctuaries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the agricultural land located near Dulegaon Rehekuri Wildlife Sanctuary has been destroyedregularly by wildlife animals during the last three years;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the compensation paid therefore; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the agro-product?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) and (b) The Government of India provides financial assistance to States for paying compensation to thefarmers against depredation of crops under `Project Elephant`. The financial assistance provided to States for compensating the farmers for crop depredation during last three years is as follows:

S. No	Year	Amount (Rs. In lakhs)
1.	1998-1999	20.10
2.	1999-2000	9.03
3.	2000-2001	13.5

(c) and (d) Wild animals do tend to stray out of sanctuaries into the agricultural fields. However no specific report has been received from the State Government in respect of large-scale depredation by wild animals aroundRehekuri wildlife sanctuary.

(e) the steps taken by the Government to prevent depredation of crops by wild animals include erection of powerfencing around fields, digging up of elephant proof trenches and educating the farmers living around the protectedareas to cultivate the crops which are not preferred food of wildlife. Central Government is willing to support farmers in creation of power fencing around their fields.